

■ FTP

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# Patrol Vehicle Operations



# PATROL VEHICLE OPERATIONS

## PATROL VEHICLE INSPECTION

1.5.01 The trainee shall explain the purposes of a vehicle inspection prior to driving. These shall minimally include:

- A. Prevention of accidents
- B. Promotion of operational efficiency
- C. Reduction of maintenance and repair costs
- D. Location of contraband, evidence, or property

### **Reference:**

	INSTRUCTED		COMPETENCY DEMONSTRATED		How Demonstrated? Field Perform Role Play Written Test Verbal Test	REMEDIED		How Remediated? Field Perform Role Play Written Test Verbal Test
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Trainee								
Comments:								Case/Report No.:

1.5.02 The trainee shall point out the location and describe the use of the following:

- A. Rear door locks
- B. Trunk and hood release
- C. Firearms/Weapon release systems
- D. Emergency lights and siren switches
- E. Flares
- F. First aid equipment
- G. Radio
- H. Spare tire release
- I. Jack and handle
- J. Spare tire
- K. Engine fluid compartments and dip sticks

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# PATROL VEHICLE OPERATIONS

1.5.03 The trainee shall explain agency policy regarding requests for vehicle service in the field.

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1.5.04 The trainee shall explain agency policy regarding proper maintenance of the police vehicle. This explanation shall minimally include:

- A. The procedure for regular maintenance and service of patrol vehicles
- B. The procedure for turning in a damaged or mechanically deficient vehicle for repair
- C. The proper documentation to be completed

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1.5.05 The trainee shall conduct a patrol vehicle pre-shift inspection, to include:

- A. Visual check of vehicle exterior for damage and the tires for wear and proper inflation
- B. An inspection of the trunk for the spare tire and required equipment
- C. An operations check of the vehicle equipment (lights, horn, etc.) and the emergency equipment (light bar, siren, public address system, etc.)
- D. An inspection of the firearms/weapons and release systems
- E. An inspection of vehicle interior that includes checking behind the sun visors, in the glove box, and beneath the seats for contraband, evidence, property, or items left from a previous shift

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# PATROL VEHICLE OPERATIONS

## PATROL VEHICLE OPERATION SAFETY

1.5.06 The trainee shall review and explain agency policy on approved driving techniques, including:

- A. Backing
- B. Parking
- C. Right-of-way violations
- D. Passing
- E. Excessive speed

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1.5.07 The trainee shall discuss the factors which influence the overall stopping distance of a vehicle, including:

- A. Driver condition
- B. Vehicle condition
- C. Environmental conditions, including road surfaces
- D. Vehicle speed
- E. Reaction time and distance
- F. Braking distance
- G. Knowledge of anti-lock braking systems

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1.5.08 The trainee shall identify the components of “defensive driving.” These shall include:

- A. Driver attitude
- B. Driver skill

# PATROL VEHICLE OPERATIONS

C. Vehicle capability

D. Seat belt usage

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1.5.09 The trainee shall identify driver attitudes that can contribute to the occurrence of traffic accidents, including:

A. Over-confidence

B. Impatience (including “road rage”)

C. Self-righteousness

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1.5.10 The trainee shall discuss the effects of driver fatigue, including:

A. Lower visual efficiency

B. Slower reaction time

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## PATROL VEHICLE OPERATIONS

- 1.5.11 The trainee shall drive the vehicle in a safe and alert manner complying with all laws, regulations, and policies.

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## EMERGENCY VEHICLE OPERATIONS/PURSUIITS

- 1.5.12 The trainee shall review and explain the agency's policy concerning pursuits and code-three driving.

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- 1.5.13 The trainee shall identify the tactics that should be utilized by the driver of an emergency vehicle while in a pursuit or any other emergency response. These tactics shall minimally include:

- A. Slowing for intersections
- B. Careful observation at cross streets
- C. Caution when passing other vehicles
- D. Constant alertness for any unforeseen hazard
- E. Using a well-planned route of travel in emergency response situations

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## PATROL VEHICLE OPERATIONS

1.5.14 The trainee shall discuss those factors to consider in determining whether to continue or abandon a pursuit. These factors shall minimally include:

- A. Amount of other traffic, both vehicular and pedestrian
- B. Road hazards and road conditions
- C. Environmental conditions
- D. Capability and condition of patrol vehicle and driver
- E. Seriousness of the crime(s) in relation to potential likelihood of causing injury to innocent persons or damage to property
- F. Whether vehicle or driver can be identified

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1.5.15 Given a simulated or an actual emergency response or pursuit, the trainee shall demonstrate safe and effective driving practices.

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## VEHICLE OPERATION LIABILITY

1.5.16 The trainee shall discuss how an officer operating a law enforcement vehicle under non-emergency conditions is subject to the same "rules of the road" as any other driver.

**Reference:** 21052 VC

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## PATROL VEHICLE OPERATIONS

1.5.17 The trainee shall explain the situations in which the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle is exempt from the Vehicle Code provisions listed in Section 21055, including:

- A. Responding to an emergency call
- B. Engaged in a rescue operation
- C. In pursuit of a violator
- D. Responding to a fire alarm

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1.5.18 The trainee shall explain the exemption requirements of the Vehicle Code regarding the use of red lights and siren, under Sections 21055(b) and 21807.

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1.5.19 The trainee shall explain the conditions under which he/she or their agency may be held liable for deaths, injury, or property damage which occur while an emergency vehicle is being operated with red lights and siren (Code 3), including:

- A. Failure to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons described in VC Section 21056
- B. When the agency has not adopted a written policy on police pursuits in compliance with VC Section 17004.7
- C. A negligent or wrongful act or omission by an employee of the entity described in VC Section 17001



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D. When not in immediate pursuit of an actual or suspected violator or responding to a bona fide emergency as described in VC Section 17004

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